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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/432,087 11/02/99 MISAWA

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MMC2/0815
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EXAMINER

VORTMAN, A
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2835
DATE MAILED:

7.
08/15/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/432,087

Applicant(s)

MISAWA, TAKESHI

Examiner

Anatoly Vortman

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 9-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Amendments

1. The submission of the amendment filed on 6/4/01 is acknowledged. At this point new claims 13-17 have been added by the amendment. Thus, claims 1-17 are pending in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-7 and 9-~~17~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US/5,768,163 to Smith, II, (Smith).

Regarding claims 1 and 13, Smith disclosed (Fig. 3), a personal computer comprising: a base unit (10); an input part (keyboard and trackball) arranged on the base unit, the input part having an operational face (a top side of the keyboard); a display unit (11,16) having a display face (a front side of the display), the display unit being operatively interconnected to the base unit in a state that the display face forms an angle less than 180° with the operational face when

the personal computer is in use; and a chamber capable of accepting an external device (13) enhancing a function of the personal computer, the chamber being arranged in (within) the display unit (11, 16).

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Smith disclosed that said display unit (11,16) is capable of closing the display face and the operation face when the personal computer is not in use, (Fig. 6).

Regarding claims 4 and 5, Smith disclosed that said display unit (11,16) is hinged and rigidly joined to the base unit (10) in the state that the display face forms the angle less than 180° with the operational face, (Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 6, Smith disclosed that the chamber opens at topside of the display unit, (Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 7, Smith disclosed that chamber opens at a lateral side of the display unit, (Fig. 6).

Regarding claim 9, Smith disclosed a keyboard and a trackball, (Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 10, Smith disclosed that the chamber and the external device confirm the PCMCIA standard, (Fig. 12; column 5, lines 35+).

Regarding claim 11, Smith disclosed a camera (13).

Regarding claim 12, Smith disclosed a wireless communication device (element 45, Fig. 9).

Regarding claim 15, Smith disclosed (Fig. 3, 6, 7 and 12), an apparatus for interfacing a computer with an external device (Fig. 7, element 32), the apparatus comprising: a display unit (including component (33)) having a display face (a front side of the display) and being movably coupled to a base unit such that the display face forms an angle generally less than 180° with the

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base unit; and a chamber (formed in the component (33), Fig. 7) having a predetermined depth, the chamber disposed in the display unit (33), the chamber having an electrical connection (Fig. 12, element 51) in an innermost recess thereof, the chamber configured to accept at least a portion of the external device (32) such that an electrical connection can be established between the computer and the external device (32).

Regarding claim 16, Smith disclosed, (Fig. 3, 6, 7 and 12), an apparatus for interfacing a computer with an external device (Fig. 7, element 32), the apparatus comprising: a display unit (including component (33)) having a display face (a front side of the display) and being movably coupled to a base unit such that the display face forms an angle generally less than 180° with the base unit; and a chamber (formed in the component (33), Fig. 7) formed inside the display unit, the chamber having walls capable of covering the bottom side, a left and right side, and a front and back side of the external device (32), the chamber having an opening disposed on the outside of the display unit for inserting the external device (32), (Fig. 7).

Regarding claims 14 and 17, the method steps recited in the claims are necessitated by the device structure as it is disclosed by Smith.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

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Smith failed to disclose a cutout part and a transparent part positioned so, that when the external device inserted in the chamber, it would have been visible through said transparent part.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments presented in the amendment filed on 6/4/01 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anatoly Vortman whose telephone number is 703-308-7824. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00, Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Leo P. Picard can be reached on 703-308-0538. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.

Anatoly Vortman
Examiner
Art Unit 2835

A.V.
August 9, 2001

